

West Sand Flat
Quemado Ranger District
2015 Annual Operating Instructions
(11/14/14)

As per your Annual meeting held with Ralph Fink and Wayne Witty, please see the following instructions. Please utilize these instructions as direction for management on your grazing allotment during the 2015 Grazing Season. We appreciate your cooperation in the management of your livestock throughout the grazing year.

Lumpkin Permit

2015 Pasture Rotation

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use
Sand Flat (North)	03/01/15	05/30/15	15 Cow/calf	35%
Sand Flat (South)	09/01/15	10/15/15	15 Cow/calf	35%
Apache Mountain	10/16/15	11/30/15	15 Cow/calf	35%

Kline Permit

Non-Use

As per FSM 2231.61 (Gila Supp #23), I am informing you that this is your third year of partial Personal Convenience Non-Use. In order to maintain full permitted numbers you are required to stock up to 90% of the permitted numbers by the 4th year (2016). If you foresee that, fully stocking by 2016 will not be possible due to resource concerns, please contact Wayne on alternatives such as a Memorandum of Understanding allowing for Resource Protection Non-Use.

2015 Pasture Rotation

Pasture	From	To	Number	Allowable Use
Negrito	03/01/15	04/15/15	15 Cow/calf	35%
Tularosa/Negrito	04/16/15	05/31/15	56 Cow/calf	35%
Private	06/01/15	08/31/15	15 Cow/calf	NA
Tularosa/Negrito	06/01/15	08/31/15	41 Cow/calf	35%
Apache Mountain	09/01/15	11/30/15	56 Cow/calf	35%
Private	12/01/15	02/28/16	41 Cow/calf	NA
Negrito	12/01/15	02/28/16	15 Cow/calf	35%

Grazing Restriction:

The Tularosa Gauging station is excluded from livestock use yearlong. The purpose of this restriction is to provide measures to mitigate impacts on wildlife.

Allowable Use:

The Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice dated September 1, 1995 set guidelines for utilization of key forage species at 35% allowable use.

Utilization Monitoring:

Utilization monitoring will be conducted on or near key areas of your allotment. District personnel will monitor pasture use and determine utilization percentage at that time.

Monitoring dates will be set according to the previous years monitoring results. If pastures were approaching allowable use during the 2014 grazing season they will be monitored at the mid-point of the pasture use period to determine if it is necessary for livestock to be moved to the next pasture in the rotation. Please note the following approximate dates that are scheduled for monitoring on the West Sand Flat Allotment. You are encouraged to participate in monitoring utilization levels.

2015 Monitoring Dates:

Pasture	Monitoring Dates
Sand Flat North	04/16/15, 5/20/15
Sand Flat South	10/05/15
Apache Mountain	11/17/15

If utilization levels are approaching allowable use levels, livestock will be required to be moved to areas within the pasture that are not approaching allowable use levels. If areas well under utilization levels are unavailable within the pasture, livestock will be moved to next scheduled pasture. If there are no pastures that remain under utilization, livestock will be required to move to private lands.

Forage Growth and Water Availability:

If forage growth and/or water availability are not adequate during all or portions of the 2015 grazing season, total or partial livestock removal will be necessary. Part 2, clause 8(c) of the grazing permit provides this option.

Range Improvements:

All assigned range developments identified in the Term Grazing Permit will be maintained to a functional status.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Wayne Witty at (575) 773-4678.

Emily Irwin
Emily Irwin
District Ranger

2/20/2015
Date